

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

MT DROUGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

RESERVOIR AND RIVER OPERATIONS

April 21, 2005



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

Clark Canyon Reservoir

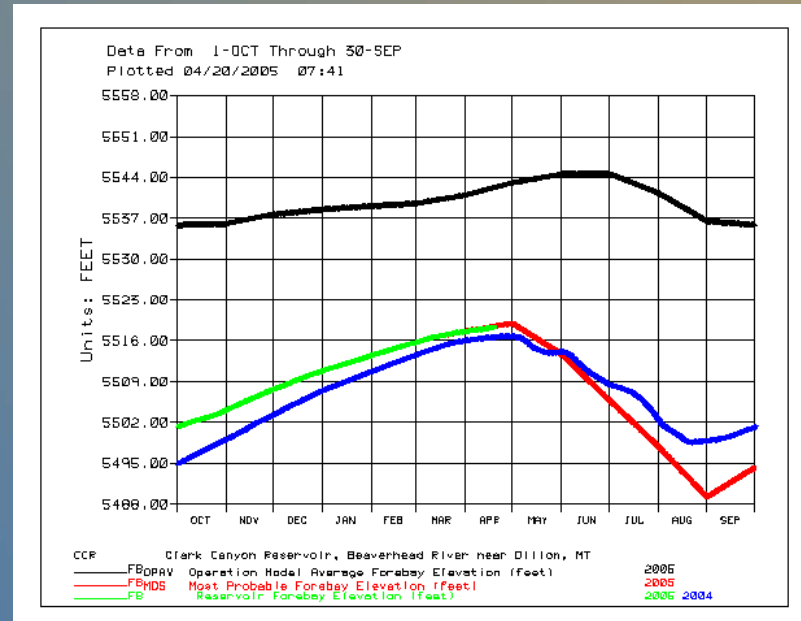
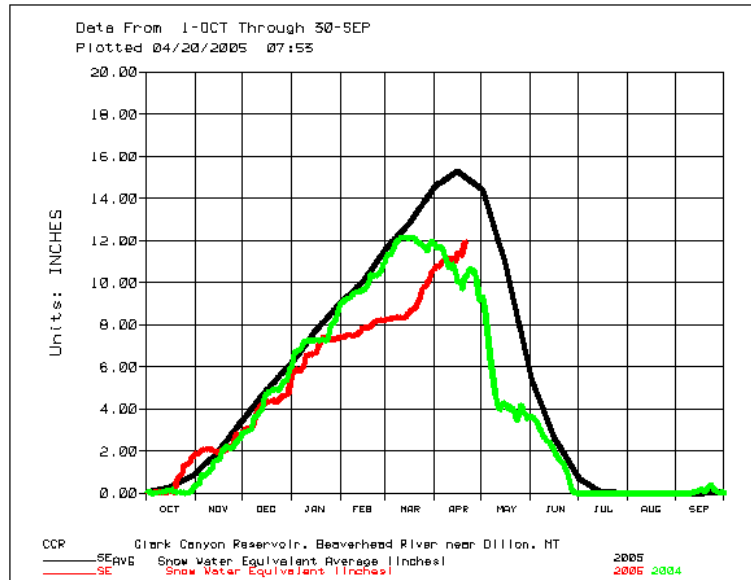
Record low inflows

Storage @ 61,700 af (40% of average)

Snowpack increased 5% last 3 days to 80% of average

Releases maintained @ 25-30 cfs

EBID & CCWSC have worked out deal to deliver a minimum of 15,000 af to EBID during 2005



RECLAMATION

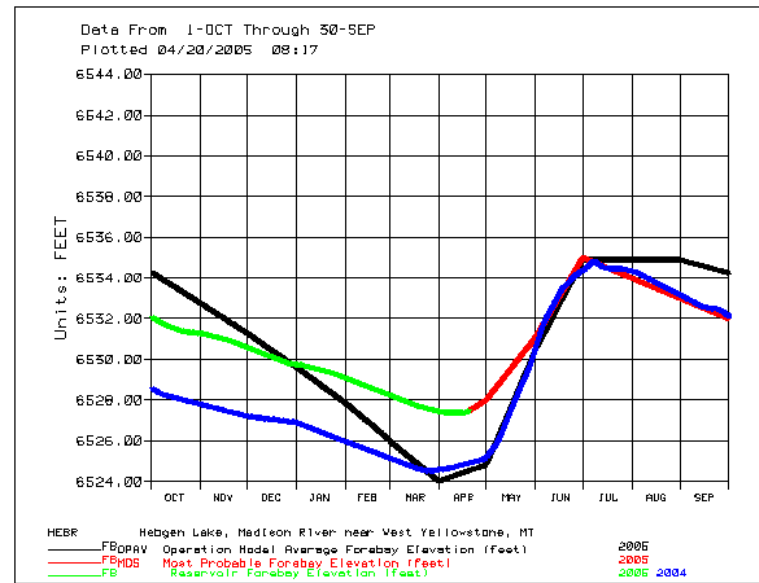
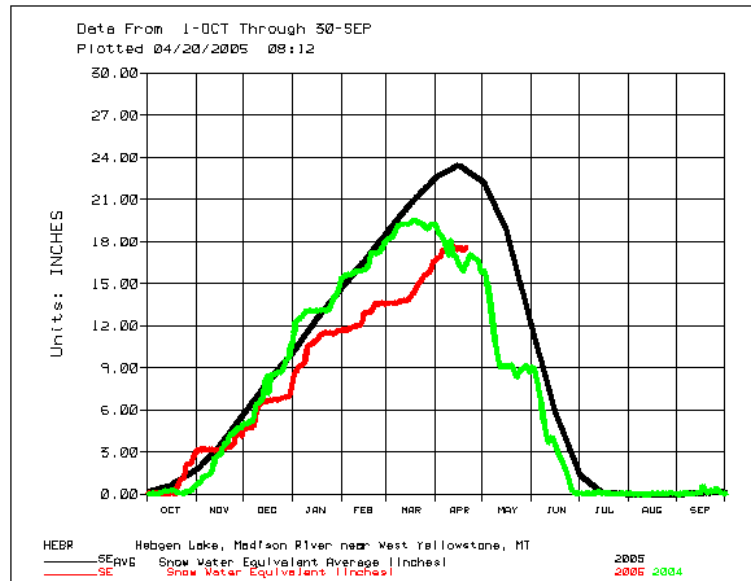
Hebgen Reservoir (PPL-MT)

Releasing 840 cfs to Madison
River

Snowpack @ 76% of average

Storage @ 112% of average

Depending on water
temperatures in river and
pulse flow operations, plans
may be expected to follow
last years operations



RECLAMATION

Canyon Ferry Reservoir

April Inflow 2nd lowest of record

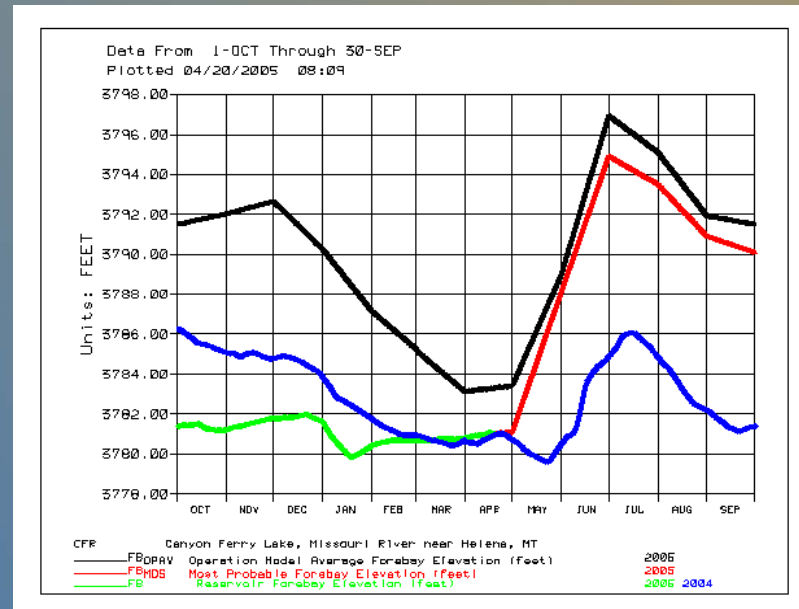
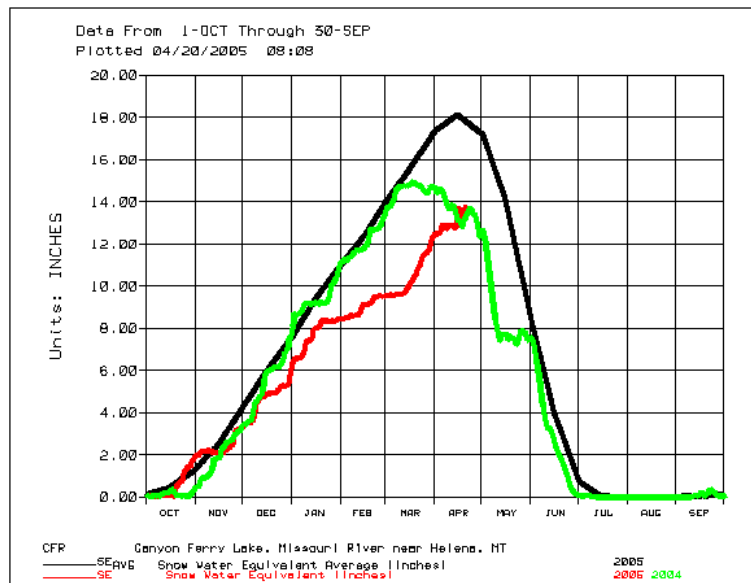
Snowpack increased 5% last 3 days to 77% of average

Storage @ 95% of average

Releases maintained @ 2,800-2,900 cfs below Holter Dam

Expect storage to fill to within 3-5 feet of full pool by end of June

Hope to increase river releases later this summer.



RECLAMATION

Gibson Reservoir

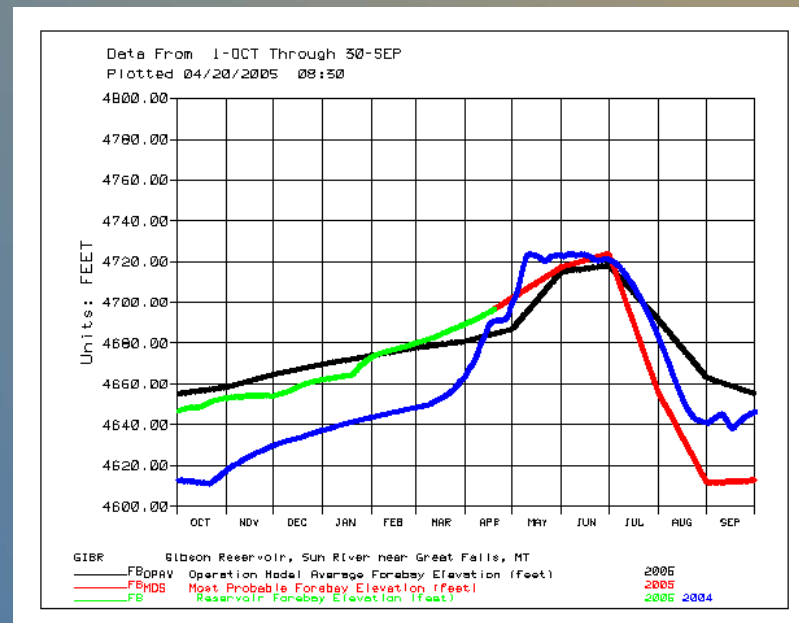
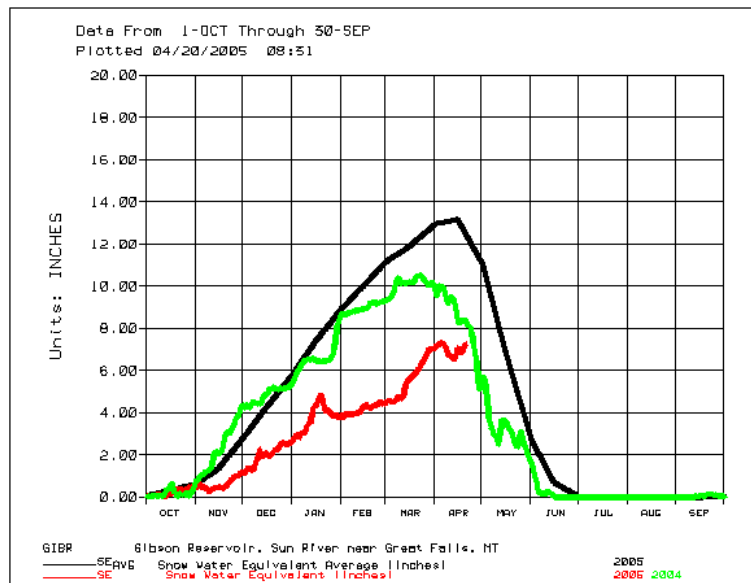
April inflow @ 60% of average

Snowpack increased 5% in last 3 days to 58% of average

Storage @ 124% of average

Releasing 75 cfs to Sun River

Expect to fill Gibson but if snowpack and spring precipitation remains well below normal, water users will experience water shortages in 2005



RECLAMATION

Lake Elwell (Tiber Reservoir)

Near record low April inflow

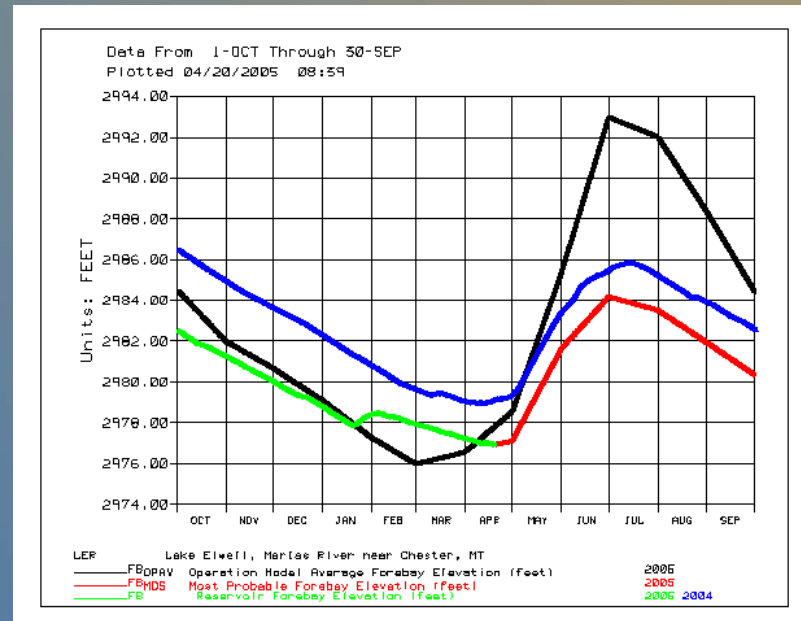
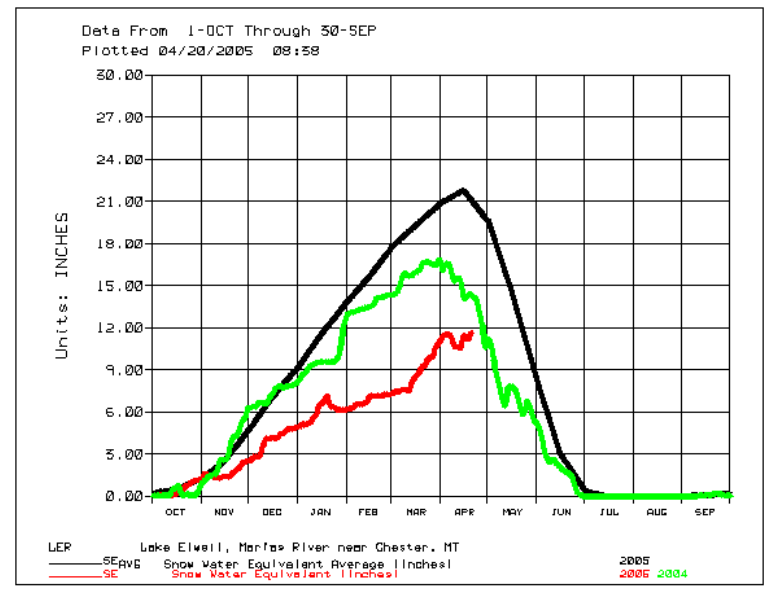
Snowpack increased 3% in last 3 days to 55% of average

Storage @ 98% of average

Releasing 500 cfs for minimum fishery flow

Expect to fill Tiber to within 10 feet of normal full pool in June

Fall & winter releases may be reduced to less than 500 cfs



RECLAMATION

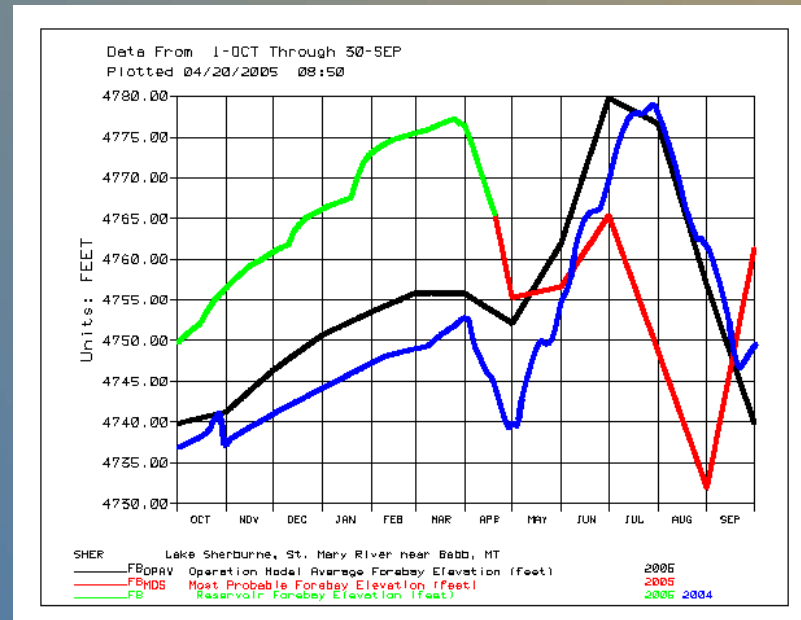
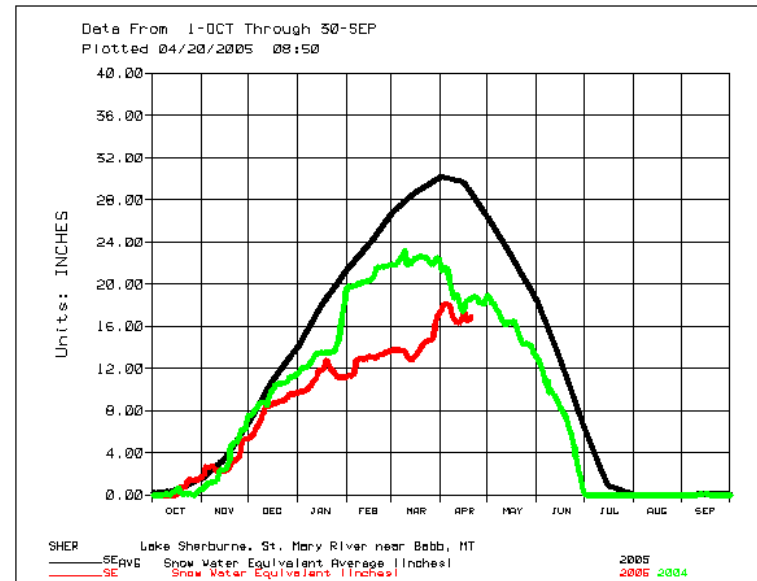
Lake Sherburne

Winter inflows have been well above normal

Snowpack increased 3% in last 3 days to 59% of average

Storage @ 160 percent of average, the highest of record for this time of year

Currently diverting water from St. Mary River Basin to Milk River @ rate of 550 cfs



RECLAMATION

Fresno Reservoir

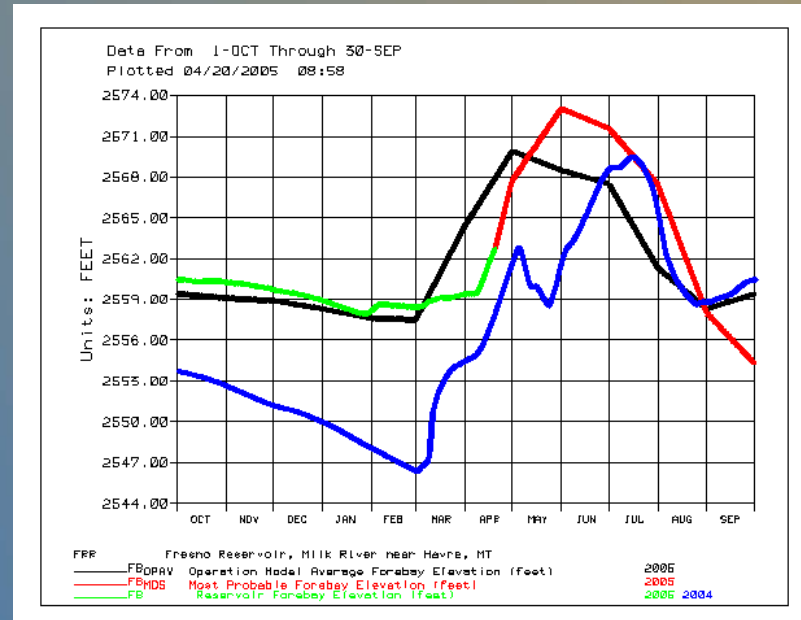
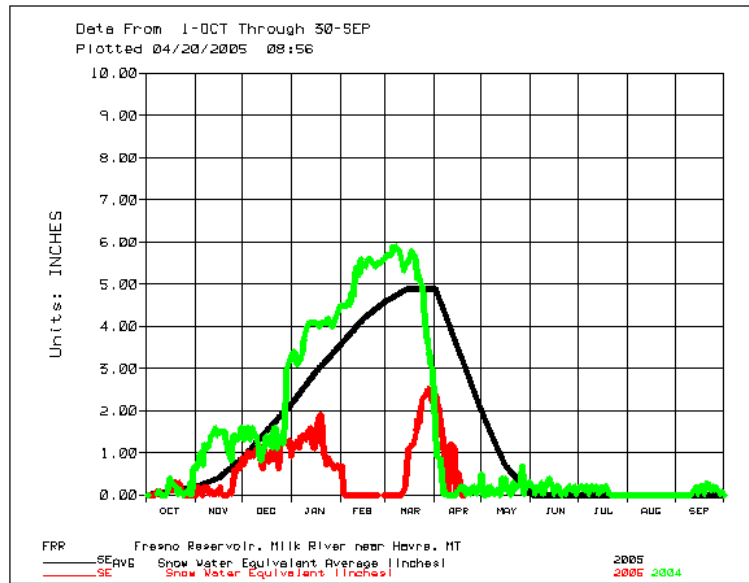
Currently diverting 550 cfs from
St. Mary Basin to Milk River

Storage @ 76% of average

Releasing 150 cfs to begin
watering up irrigation canals

Storage is expected to only reach
1-3 feet of normal full pool
@elevation 2575 and without
timely rains, irrigation shortages
are anticipated this year

Current plans indicate setting
allotments @ 1.3 af/ac



RECLAMATION

Bighorn Lake (Yellowtail Reservoir)

April inflow 5th lowest of record

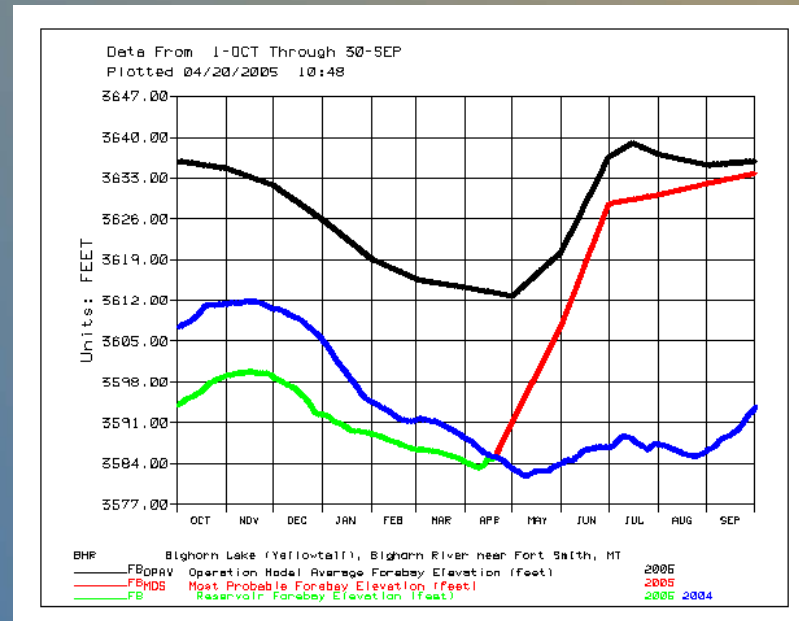
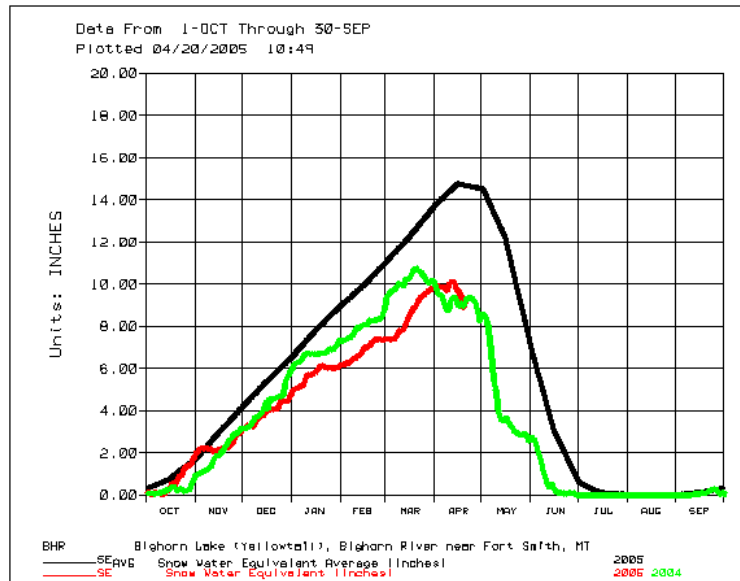
Snowpack @ 62% of average

Storage @ 81% of average

Releasing 1,500 cfs to Bighorn River

Expect to fill storage to within 10-15 feet of full pool by the end of July

Hopeful that releases will be increased later this summer



RECLAMATION

Hungry Horse Reservoir

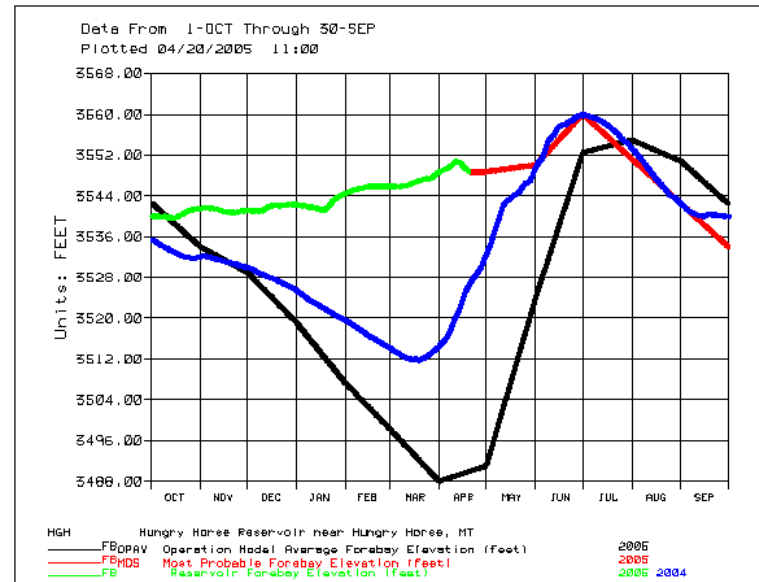
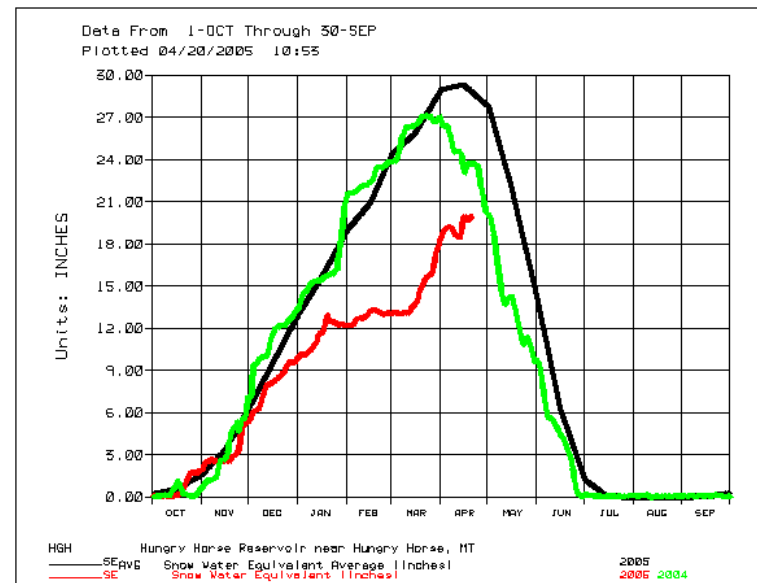
Near record low inflow

Snowpack @ 69% of average

Storage @ 321% of average

Releasing 7,240 cfs to river

Hope to fill Hungry Horse this year by continuing conservative releases



RECLAMATION

Summary of Operations of Reclamation Projects

Except for Lake Sherburne, inflows have been well below normal.

Mountain snowpack continues to remain well below normal, varying from 47% of average in the Marias to 72% of average in the Bighorn Basin.

Most reservoir storages are above normal with the best being Lake Sherburne at 160% of average.

Except for the Marias River, releases continue to be maintained at less than the desired optimum flow for river fisheries. The flow in the Marias River below Tiber Dam is the only area in the State where the minimum desirable fishery flow is being maintained.

Spring precipitation accounts for 30-35% of the spring runoff. If below normal precipitation occurs, severe water shortages will be experienced for many water users in 2005.

RECLAMATION